

Name:

James F. Munroe

How long have you lived in the L'Anse Creuse Community?

20+ Years

Have you served on any school or district committees? If so, please list committees and your role (chair, co-chair, or participant).

Speaker at the 40th celebration of Middle School South, Bond Committees, Codifying Board of Education Policies Committee, Millage Committees, District-wide Area Council, Middle School Recommendation Committee, Mathematics Curriculum Committee.

Do you attend Board of Education meetings, if so how often?

I attend meetings when my schedule allows.

Have you served as a volunteer in the community? If so, for what organization?

St. Isidore Catholic Church

Family:

Spouse: Victoria, Retired LCPS Secretary

Children: Connie, Joe. and Cathy. **How many in LCPS?**

Career:

I am a retiree from the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools and the Michigan Education Association. For 17 years I taught Secondary Mathematics, primarily at Middle School North and High School North. I was the initial Assistant Principal at Middle School South for its first three years. I was a field director for the Michigan Education Association working in Macomb and Oakland Counties. I was then promoted to the position of Eastern Zone Director supervising employees in Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne counties. After another 3 years, I became the Human Resources Director for MEA.

Education:

Bachelors Degree (B.S.) Wayne State University

Masters Degree (M.Ed.) Wayne State University

What do you think is the purpose of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools Board of Education?

The primary purpose of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools Board of Education is to set policies for the school district. They hire the Superintendent for the purpose of implementing those policies. In addition, they provide a forum for the district patrons.

What particular or added dimensions would you would bring to the Board if voted in?

I have experience in seeking input while developing and administering policies and practices for employees and management.

What do you feel are the three most positive aspects of L'Anse Creuse Public Schools?

The three most positive aspects of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools are (1) the students that come to school each day and participate in the excellent education program offered in L'Anse Creuse; (2) the quality staff that provides the educational opportunities to our students; and (3) the community support for our school district.

What do you feel are the three greatest challenges facing L'Anse Creuse Public Schools?

The three greatest challenges facing the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools are (1) the declining student enrollment; (2) the lack of adequate funding for public schools; and (3) making the difficult decisions while continuing to provide a quality educational program.

What is your understanding of how our schools are financed? How could the district maintain a balanced budget?

Schools are funded by a per pupil allocation from the State of Michigan. The District must set priorities for addressing declining student enrollment. The District can maintain a balanced budget through accurate monetary projections which may include program and staffing adjustments and wise investments. Buildings are constructed or modernized through voter passed bond issues, usually not from the per pupil allocation.

What is your assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the overall operations of L'Anse Creuse Public Schools?

The strengths are our positive aspects with the combined desire to make L'Anse Creuse the best school district in the state. Our weakness is the belief we are no longer a "family" within the District. It appears that there is no longer the unified direction stemming from the Board of Education.

If you win a seat on the Board of Education, what would you seek to accomplish?

My first goal would be to help provide respect and civility at the Board of Education meetings. I have the time necessary to research any possible solutions to our greatest challenges and I am willing and I have proven I can make the difficult decisions.

To what extent do you think Board members should be involved in legislative activities?

I believe that Board members should inform our legislators on the impact of their decisions upon the students, staff, and the community of L'Anse Creuse.

Additional comments:

L'Anse Creuse has always been a part of my life. My wife is a retired L'Anse Creuse secretary. I have had 4 brothers graduate from L'Ans Creuse. I currently have a brother and a sister-in-law who teach in L'Anse Creuse. I believe I can add a level of respect and civility to the Board of Education that used to be a valued trait within the school district. In addition, I have the sense of history that Mr. Hoover previously provided to the Board of Education.